

SUBJECT: Region 6 Environmental Justice Annual Report "Working  
Toward Solutions"

FROM: Samuel Coleman, P.E., Director  
Compliance Assurance and  
Enforcement Division (6EN)

TO: Clarice Gaylord, Director  
Office of Environmental Justice

I am pleased to provide the attached 1996 annual report of Region 6 Environmental Justice activities "Working Toward Solutions". Region 6 has been involved in a wide array of activities that touch the boundaries of environmental justice. Our collective efforts to address the issue of environmental justice have many varied approaches--from development of internal decision-making processes for implementing EJ to those actions that take place in the field including community outreach and assistance, facility inspections, etc.

In 1996, the Region concentrated significant efforts into a relatively short timeframe toward the development and implementation of the first Environmental Justice Enforcement Roundtable in Region 6. We view this as one of our greatest 1996 accomplishments in Environmental Justice, however, many other activities and accomplishments were achieved as well. This report highlights only a few of the many EJ initiatives in Region 6. Region 6 commitments in EJ mission areas indicated in the Environmental Justice Implementation Plan are addressed.

If you have questions regarding this report, please contact me at (214) 665-2110 or Shirley Augurson, Environmental Justice Coordinator at (214) 665-7401.

Attachments

*Environmental Justice Implementation Plan  
Mission Areas*

*\*\*I. Public Participation, Accountability, Partnerships,  
Outreach, and Communication with stakeholders*

*II. Health and Environmental Research*

*\*\*III. Data Collection, Analysis, and Stakeholder Access to  
Public Information*

*IV. American Indian, Alaska native and Indigenous  
Environmental Protection*

*\*\*V. Enforcement, Compliance Assurance and Regulatory Review*

*\*\*Denotes Region 6 commitment areas*

*"WORKING TOWARD SOLUTIONS"*  
*REGION 6*  
*1996 Environmental Justice Report*

**Mission Area: Public Participation, Accountability,  
Partnerships, Outreach and Communication with Stakeholders**

**Key Efforts:**

**Region 6 commitments under the EJ Implementation Plan included  
the following:**

*b. Work with Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation (LPBF) on education and outreach activities in the Basin regarding watershed protection and lake restoration. Young children in minority communities have limited opportunity to learn about, visit or enjoy the Lake. The Foundation and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service co-sponsor a nature camp for youth from New Orleans inner-city areas. The event allows children to participate in environmental and educational activities focusing on the Lake. Other activities include: working with teachers in developing curriculums about the basin's environmental issues; field trips for students to the canal pumping stations and to the Lake; and field trips to New Orleans area nature centers.*

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

*The Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation's Education/Outreach Programs have been ongoing for four years. Some examples of the program accomplishments are:*

- Presented information to school groups(elementary through college); professional and civic associations.*
- Sponsored 8 wetland education workshops for teachers; 20 three-day workshops at Turtle Cove Environmental Research Station; workshops at teacher conferences such as Louisiana Science teachers Association convention and Louisiana Environmental Education Symposium; annual mini-workshops at teacher in-services in Jefferson, Orleans, and St. Tammany Parishes.*
- Conducted field trips for students, teachers and others (usually no more than 35 people per trip) to Orleans and Jefferson pumping stations for urban runoff, wetlands field*

trips to St. Bernard, St. Charles and Tangipahoa Parishes; and, northshore river field trips.

- Conducted development and distribution of education materials including fact sheets, newsletters, two videos, and the "Lessons on the Lake" Educator's Guide.

Mission Area: Public Participation, Accountability, Partnerships, Outreach; and communication with Stakeholders (continued)

- Provided research assistance to students and teachers: we have sent out hundreds of educational packets for research projects related to the Pontchartrain Basin.

- Developed and sponsored "Canal Watch" student monitoring program: 33 schools have participated in this year-long program.

- Sponsored Bayou Sauvage Eco-camp for inner-city children: over 200 inner-city children experienced the wetlands for the first time through week-long summer programs sponsored by the LPBF and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

- Provided information to thousands of area citizens regarding the Basin's environmental challenges during area festivals.

- Conducted an annual bookcover contest (last year we had 540 entrants) and distribution of 100,000 bookcovers to schools each year for the past three years.

- Provided 18 small grants to schools at a maximum of \$500/class to provide for year-long programs that focus on the Pontchartrain Basin.

- Provided grants to other organizations such as the Louisiana Science Teachers Association and the Louisiana Environmental Education Interagency Committee for educational projects in the Basin.

Other Region 6 accomplishments under the Public Participation mission area include:

! **Environmental Justice Enforcement Roundtable** - In conjunction with NEJAC and EPA, Office of Environmental

Justice, Region 6 hosted the first Environmental Justice Enforcement Roundtable in San Antonio, Texas on October 17-19. The two and a half day meeting included a bus tour of selected sites in EJ communities, a training session, panel discussions and small-group break-out sessions. At the request of community leaders, Federal officials met with community representatives in three small-group sessions to discuss issues and concerns. The roundtable was well attended by stakeholders from grass-roots community groups, environmental organizations, academia, industry, Tribal and State government representatives. This event proved to be an excellent opportunity for all parties to share information and initiate communications for constructive problem-solving.

Mission Area: Public Participation, Accountability, Partnerships, Outreach and Communication with Stakeholders (continued)

**! Training - Deep South Center for Environmental Justice Symposium** - Through an initiative partially funded through an EJ grant, the Deep South Center for Environmental Justice hosted an Environmental Justice Symposium on November 1 & 2, 1996 in New Orleans, Louisiana. The training "Building Partnerships for Empowerment through Training", provided useful information to attendees regarding environmental issues in EJ communities. A moving address was presented by the key-note speaker, Dr. Mildred McClain, of Savannah, Georgia. This was an excellent example of community outreach and training.

**! EJ Small grant & CUP grant awards** - The Region awarded 16 EJ grants totaling \$300,000 for activities in Region 6 EJ communities. These grant projects serve as vehicles for community outreach and support of EJ initiatives.

Two Region 6 universities, Xavier University and University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP), received funding via the headquarters Community/University Partnership Program. Xavier will study and analyze lead exposure in Louisiana. UTEP will focus on community empowerment through education, training and community participation in the decision-making processes

**! Kennedy Heights, Houston, Texas** - The Region continues its efforts to review documents, samples, etc., presented

separately by Kennedy Heights residents and their legal advisor and Chevron/Gulf.

Issues in the case include, (1) Determining if these wastes are excluded from regulation under CERCLA; (2) Determining if there is imminent and substantial endangerment to health. The Region is in regular contact with TRC; TRC is pursuing this complaint and is attempting to resolve it under its legal authorities.

- ! **RSR Lead Smelter Site Tour and Meeting** - At the request of Richard Moore of the Southwest Network for Environmental and Economic Justice and Reverend R. T. Conley, EPA officials met with West Dallas residents in late September. The purpose of the meeting was to clarify EPA's position on several **key issues of concern**, including relocation, recontamination during clean-up operations, long-term health care and employment opportunities for residents related to clean-up activities.

Mission Area: Public Participation, Accountability, Partnerships, Outreach and Communication with Stakeholders (continued)

Prior to the meeting, Deputy Regional Administrator, Jerry Clifford, Superfund and Enforcement Division Directors, Myron Knudson and Sam Coleman, and EPA staff toured the site with Moore and Conley. EPA officials who attended the meeting included, Tim Fields, OSWER Deputy AA, Jerry Clifford, Myron Knudson and Superfund program staff. (The meeting and agenda was coordinated by the EJ Coordinator who was away from the office on a family emergency the day of the meeting.) The meeting went well and positive reactions were received from the residents.

- ! The Region 6 EPA Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division participated in the Korean Dry Cleaning Association July meeting held at the Harvey Suites Hotel in Dallas, Texas. The meeting was attended by approximately 100 members of the Association. EPA discussed Compliance Assistance available to Dry Cleaners to achieve compliance with the federal requirements for this industry. A representative of the Dallas Small Business Technical

Assistance Program for Dry Cleaners (funded by EPA) was invited to participate in the presentation.

**! STATE/COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS:**

Radon testing and mitigation assistance is being implemented for low-income housing. The New Mexico Environmental Department (NMED) is using State Indoor Radon Grant funds for a project to reduce radon risk in low-income housing. The NMED developed this project as a cooperative effort with the New Mexico Energy and Minerals Department (NMEMD), which is the state organization that oversees a program to weatherize low-income homes.

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- Provide training to low-income residents regarding radon.
- Distribute radon test kits for in-home testing.
- Provide mitigation supplies.
- Provide funding for the cost of labor.
- Provide technical assistance to residents.
- Contract with local non-profit groups for completion of work.

**SUCCESS:**

This project provided information that will address a local problem that many low-income residents were not aware of. In addition, after making the residents aware of the problem, provisions were made to provide funding, test kits and mitigation labor support to correct the problem. This was a cooperative community effort that strengthened or established partnerships with local non-profit groups working to address these community environmental issues in low-income areas.

**! OUTREACH - DELEGATED STATE PROGRAMS:**

The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Multiyear Workplan for the FY 1997/1998/1999 §3011 State Grants contains EPA's expectations regarding environmental justice

in very explicit language . The Workplan in each of the 5 Region 6 states outlines environmental justice objectives, performance measures, and activity measures as follows:

**Objective:** The State will evaluate environmental justice activities related to the RCRA program and its potential impact on the aged, ethnically, and economically disadvantaged.

**Performance Measure:** The State should encourage participation by all segments of the affected community in permitting, policy, and regulation development matters.

**Activity Measure:** The State should: 1) identify sites for areas that raise environmental justice issues; 2) address environmental justice in the public participation process; and, 3) address environmental justice issues in the corrective action cleanups.

#### **Mission Area: Health and Environmental Research**

**Region 6 had no commitments under this area. The Region provided funding assistance for completion of the following:**

##### **TULANE MEDICAL CENTER STUDY "Hazardous Environmental Chemical Exposure in a Disproportionately Impacted Minority and Underserved Population of Louisiana: A Community-Based Environmental Equity Demonstration Project"**

In 1994, Region 6 awarded a grant to Tulane Medical Center to conduct a study of hazardous environmental chemical exposure in environmental justice communities. In July, 1996 Tulane submitted the final project report.

The final report overview indicates that the primary purpose of this community-based research effort was to develop a model to empower disproportionately affected communities in addressing hazardous exposures through collaborative efforts with health care providers, researchers and industry.

#### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- The project established partnerships between potential impacted community, health care providers and the university.



- Developed and implemented a hot-line questionnaire to obtain study information from participants. The questionnaire addressed perceived hazards, assessment of personal health risks, occurrences of cancer, miscarriages, other health outcome, etc. In addition, the hot-line provided a mechanism for citizens to report perceived environmental problems, such as waste, emissions, and odors.
- Provided a community cancer profile using statistical techniques to determine if the community experienced excess mortality as compared to the remainder of the state.

### **SUCCESS:**

The project work involved close coordination with the community, since the data-collection phase was largely dependent on community participation. The education and outreach approach proved to be beneficial in keeping the community informed. Collaborative efforts of Tulane and Bayou Comprehensive Health Clinic, a local health care provider, provided an opportunity to work directly with patients, hot-line users and the health care provider to understand health issues encountered.

### **LESSONS LEARNED:**

Community support waned after an initial enthusiastic start-up. There is belief that this may have been due to fear of retribution from industry. Industry has formed many partnerships within the community, employs many community residents, and provides support and services to many community activities. Prior to initiating other studies, the community will be given a period to reflect on it's commitment to addressing environmental concerns.

**Mission Area: Data Collection, Analysis, and Stakeholder Access to Public Information**

**Region 6 had the following commitments in this area:**

Key Efforts: Implement ground water protection programs through the use of community volunteers. Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) members conducted the contaminant source inventory for the Well Head Protection Program (WHP). This project gained national and international attention, consequently, the effective use of volunteers to implement ground water protection programs is now common practice in several States. The Discovery Channel featured the current University of Texas at El Paso's intergenerational AmeriCorps project using students and RSVP members to complete WHP activities in the Border area.

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- Conducted follow-up contaminant source inventory for the City of El Paso's 154 public water supply (PWS) wells. This was accomplished using an intergenerational team of AmeriCorps members and Retired and Senior Volunteer Mentors.
- Developed a ground water protection outreach program for presentation at El Paso middle schools.
- Initiated development of a Geographic Information System database for the local government decision-making process. This database contains accurate location information on PWS wells, delineated Wellhead Protection Areas and potential contaminant sources within those areas.
- Presented the draft project report to a joint session of the International Boundary and Water Commission to document the activities on the U.S. side of the U.S./Mexico border.

**SUCCESS:**

Region 6 views this project as a success because it effectively addressed certain environmental issues in this largely Hispanic populated area. Due to the project's proximity to the U.S. Mexico Border, both the United States and Mexican governments realized benefits from the project. Valuable information is reaped from the project to fill data gaps regarding groundwater and public water supplies. This data will assist in the development of effective Well Head Protection initiatives.

This project demonstrates how the community can become involved in implementing local environmental protection programs. Another plus is the effective use of intergenerational volunteers from RSVP and Americorps.

Mission Area: Data Collection, Analysis, and Stakeholder Access to Public Information (continued)

**Other Region 6 accomplishment under the Data Collection mission area include:**

**! UTILIZATION OF GIS AND CENSUS DATA FOR EJ AREA IDENTIFICATION:**

The Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and the 1990 Census data is utilized in various areas of Region 6 program operations. One specific use of this information is to identify installations with environmental justice concerns for facilities designated for closure or realignment under the Base Closure and Realignment Acts (BRAC) of 1988 and 1990.

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- Implementation of outreach programs in impacted environmental justice communities.
- Involvement of community representatives in BRAC sites through participation on the Restoration Advisory Boards (RABs), which have been established at each of the BRAC bases in Region 6: Bergstrom Air Force Base, Eaker Air Force Base, England Air Force Base, Dallas Naval Air Station, Fort Chaffee, Fort Wingate, Kelly Air Force Base, Red River Army Depot, and Reese Air Force Base.

**Mission Area: American Indian, Alaska native, and Indigenous Environmental Protection**

**Region 6 had no commitments under this area. The following activities were accomplished:**

**! AGREEMENT NEGOTIATED ON TENNECO/SAC AND FOX CASE:**

In a lawsuit brought by the Department of Justice on behalf of the EPA, the Department of Interior and the Sac and Fox Nation allegations were made that saltwater flooding and failure to properly plug and abandon the wells contaminated the Sac and Fox Nation's groundwater and surface lands, destroying vegetation and other natural resources, including the Nation's pecan grove. Tribal members began to notice a deterioration of the quality of the Nation's drinking water in the 1950s and 1960s. In the 1970s, the Nation began to pipe in clean water from miles away for domestic tribal use. In recent years, the Nation's economic development plans have been stymied by the lack of an adequate water supply.

On December 23, 1996, Tenneco Oil Company agreed to build a new water system for the Sac and Fox Nation to resolve allegations that the company polluted the groundwater of the Nation through years of faulty oil drilling and production practices.

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- Under the agreement, Tenneco will provide a permanent supply of potable water to the Nation by constructing water supply wells and delivery systems on at least 120 acres of land to be purchased by Tenneco.
- The Sac and Fox Tribe will receive the deed to the land. This deed agreement, which will apply to have the land taken in trust by the federal government, and added to the reservation.
- Tenneco will install a water recovery system on the Deep Fork River, which crosses tribal lands of the Sac and Fox Nation, allowing the Nation to irrigate its lands and develop a farming economy.
- The company will also reforest a pecan grove and restore an area of tribal land damaged by years of oil and gas retrieval, and pay the Nation \$1.16 million in compensation for the contamination. Under the agreement, the Nation will

spend about \$75,000 of Tenneco's payment to restore additional areas of the reservation that were damaged by oil production, including the removal of abandoned oil field equipment and the clean up of existing oil wells.

**CONTACT:** Bill Davis (214/665-7536), Ron Van Wyk (214/665-6459), or Carlos Zequeira-Brinsfield (214/665-8053)

**MISSION AREA: Enforcement, Compliance Assurance and Regulatory Review**

**KEY EFFORTS:**

Issue grants to the Texas Office of the Attorney General Strike Force and the New Mexico Attorney General's office in support of enforcement actions being taken by the Attorneys General against colonias developers who are in violation of State laws, as related to infrastructure in Texas colonias.

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

Colonias are severely distressed, rural, residential developments along the U.S./Mexico border that are characterized by substandard housing, lack of paved roads, and inadequate or no water and wastewater facilities. These substandard developments began to develop along the border during the 1980s, and by 1995, there were 1,436 colonias identified in Texas.

Because of recent efforts, the majority of colonias are now receiving drinking water from public water systems, however, there still over 200 colonias that are not being served. The sanitary conditions at colonias are still affected by the lack of proper sewage treatment and disposal systems. To deal with this problem, colonias residents have been forced to install pit privies, cess pools, or septic tank systems.

These installations are often on very small lots in close proximity to shallow water wells which are used for drinking or other household purposes. These sewage disposal practices lead to contamination of the ground water in the area. The substandard conditions at these developments pose a serious health and safety risk to the residents of the border region.

To address the problems existing at colonias, a partnership was formed between the US EPA Region 6 (Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division), US EPA Headquarters, US Department of Justice (DOJ) and Texas Office of the Attorney

General. The emergency powers under Section 1431 of the Safe Drinking Water Act will be used to take an enforcement action, either an Administrative Order or a Civil Referral to DOJ, against the developers.

- Awarded \$315,000 to the Texas Office of Attorney General (OAG) in support of the OAG's Colonias Strike Force.
- OAG investigators and attorneys continued to work closely on case investigation and prosecution.

Mission Area: Enforcement, Compliance Assurance and Regulatory Review (continued)

- In addition to numerous ongoing cases, five cases are in litigation; and four cases under investigation.
- Ongoing coordination with various local government officials continues.

The following are examples of cases in litigation or investigation:

- A law suit brought against a developer alleging violations of subdivision platting requirements and violations of the Texas Deceptive Trade Practices Act in the sale of land.
- A law suit filed against several county officials for their failure to enforce the state subdivision laws and rules designed to stop the spread of colonias. The State also sued a local developer whose deficient subdivision "plat" was illegally approved by the county.
- One case involves a formerly-married couple who were developers of a small unplatted subdivision which lacked water and sewer. The goal is have the defendant help the county pay for either the eventual fix-up of the colonia (platting, and provision of water and sewer lines and paved streets and drainage) or the relocation of the residents.

**Colonia Case in El Paso, Texas**

After extensive research and several inspections and sampling of various colonias in the Rio Grande Valley and the El Paso area, Region 6 (through Headquarters) referred the developers of a colonia, Cuna del Valle, in the El Paso area to DOJ for civil

action in September 1995. EPA headquarters referral was in November 1995. After several discussions and meetings between EPA, DOJ and various experts and several trips to the colonia, DOJ proceeded with the case. On December 27, 1996, DOJ issued an Executive Order Letter informing the respondent that DOJ was in the process of filing a case against the developers. The complaint, however has not been filed by DOJ. During the week of January 20, 1997, an introductory and preliminary settlement meeting took place between the attorneys for the Respondents and EPA and DOJ. Further discussions are taking place that will hopefully result in a settlement.

**CONTACT/TELEPHONE NUMBER:** José G. Rodriguez (6EN-WP) 665-8087  
Renea Ryland (6EN-LW) 665-2130  
Velma Smith (6WQ) 665-7153

Mission Area: Enforcement, Compliance Assurance and Regulatory Review (continued)

**In addition to the accomplishments above, the following actions were completed or initiated in the Enforcement mission area:**

**! Enforcement Efforts** - actions are underway to further research and resolve issues raised during the **Enforcement Roundtable:**

**INSPECTIONS:**

Two facilities in urban San Antonio, Texas, reportedly impacting high Potential Environmental Justice Index areas, were selected and inspected by EPA personnel on December 17, 1996, for potential violations of regulations of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). The facilities are located in east San Antonio, near the intersection of I-410 and I-10.

**GM TRADING CORPORATION, (GM)**, is a sheepskin tannery that processes hides received by truck from Iowa, and forwards the prepared skins to their Maquiladora facility, PROCESOS GM S.A. DE C.V., for leather product manufacture. The tanning process involves washing, treating in multiple pH

controlled baths with minor additions of tri-valent chromium for pH stability, then rewashing with large volumes of chlorinated, high sulfur well water. Any hazardous waste generated at the property is manifested off-site for proper disposal.

It was reported by the Company President that no Citizen complaints have been received by the facility since they started chlorinating their high sulfur well water. The TNRCC also maintains an environmental presence at the facility, with no citations issued.

**KOCH SAN ANTONIO PRODUCTS TERMINAL (KOCH)** is a public terminal dispensing large, truckload lots of liquid petroleum products into customer tank trucks. The fenced, controlled access facility consists of several large storage tanks, properly bermed to contain any spill event, with multiple, fully automated tank truck loading docks, equipped with vapor collection return systems and safety shut-off controls for over-fill. Collected vapors that are not returned to the process are burned in a state permitted combustor on-site.

The TNRCC also maintains environmental presence at this facility, with no citations issued.

Mission Area: Enforcement, Compliance Assurance and Regulatory Review (continued)

There was no discernable odor, noise, or traffic congestion in the vicinity. The facility is located in an open area of light industrial, commercial, low density older housing, schools, fast food outlets, with a balanced mix of ethnicities noted.

**! Region 6 EJ Workgroup initiatives** - The Region 6 workgroup recently completed work to draft a regional EJ Strategy Implementation process. Included in the strategy is the development of a more-defined structure and implementation protocol for the Regional EJ Program, internal EJ training and grant-writing training for communities.

**! LEGAL SUPPORT TO PROGRAMS:**

- The Office of Regional Counsel (ORC) has provided legal



support and counselling on environmental justice issues within the various Region 6 Divisions (i.e. Multimedia Planning and Permitting and Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Divisions) on a case-by-case basis.

More specifically, ORC has been involved with the Region's Water Quality Program and the Department of Justice in pending litigation filed by Mothers Organized to Stop Environmental Sins (MOSES) and others against EPA, for EPA's May 17, 1995, proposed approval of a modification to the American Ecology Environmental Services, Inc. (American Ecology) existing no migration exemption. Approval of this modification would allow American Ecology to add a second Class I hazardous waste injection well near Winona, Texas.

On an as need basis, provide legal counsel to the EJ Coordinator on matters such as the Kennedy Heights (Houston, Texas). Kennedy Heights is a predominately African-American community in Houston, Texas that alleges contamination of the soils and groundwater from past operating practices of Chevron and Gulf Oil Companies. In the case of Kennedy Heights, ORC participated in meetings involving industry and community representatives to review data collected by both sides and to listen and interpret arguments posed.

## **APPENDIX**

### **FUNDED REGION 6 PROJECTS:**

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#### **Current/Ongoing EJ/P2 Grants**

**! Pueblo of Pojoaque**  
**PJ 996502-01-0 (FY 95 - \$80,000)**

Project: Environmental Justice and Development Center  
Project Period being extended to 01/31/97

This project proposes to establish an Environmental Justice and Development Center as an education institution to provide seminars, workshops, and certification trainings essential to programs for environmental pollution prevention. The plan is to utilize the Center to produce comprehensive Environmental Policy for the Pueblo and neighboring communities in the long term as well as address particular pollution prevention problems that need immediate resolution.

**! Pueblo of Jemez**  
**PJ 996494-01-0 (FY 95 - \$50,000)**

Project: Fireplace Inserts Loan Program  
Project period extended to 03/31/97

The Jemez Pueblo has a documented prevalence of asthma that affects a significant number of adults and children. Economic and historical conditions have led to the construction of homes in the Pueblo utilizing mud and adobe as well as wood burning fireplaces as their source of heating.

This project will provide education on asthma and its relationship to air pollution, provide information on alternative heating sources with an emphasis on fireplace inserts which meet EPA standards and provide grants or subsidies to those families who wish to install a fireplace insert based on income criteria. This will directly address at least one-third of the possible pollution sources that are generating this high incidence of asthma in the Jemez Pueblo. Documentation of results will be coordinated with the Jemez Health Department and IHS Clinic.

**! Dallas County Community College, Bill J. Priest Institute**  
**PJ 996493-01-0 (FY 95 - \$80,000)**

Project: Small Business Assistance through DCCD's North Texas Small Business Center

Project Period extended to 06/30/97

The goal of this project is to institutionalize P2 methods to improve the environmental quality of minority and low-income business in affected communities in the City of Dallas.

The following objectives are designed to accomplish this goal:

1. Educate 200 minority-owned, small business within the affected communities on P2;
2. Provide 100 businesses with technical assistance on the use of P2 methods;
3. Provide one-on-one counseling to these businesses.

**! Zion Travellers Baptist Church**  
**PJ 996525-01-0 (FY 95 - \$30,000)**

Project: Reducing Air Toxics in a Minority Community  
Project Period extended to 3/30/97

The project will implement an ambient air monitoring system in Mt. Airy-Garyville-Lions ares. Such a system will allow the group to advance efforts to attain environmental justice and assist the industrial neighbors in achieving their p2 goals. This will empower the community by providing the resources necessary to independently confirm the ambient air quality. Monitoring results will provide a factual basis in which to discuss concerns associated with local quality of life issues.

**! National Center for Appropriate Technologies**  
**X-825321-01-0 (FY 96 - \$236,442)**

Project: Projecta Por Agricultura Sostenible  
Project Period: 10/1/96 - 9/30/98

This project seeks to reduce the exposure of Hispanic-American farm families and farm workers in the Texas Panhandle to hazardous agriculture chemicals by increasing their knowledge and ability to adopt sustainable agriculture methods in their farm operations.

**! Pueblo of Pojoaque**  
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**EJ/P2 Grants - Completed**

**! New Orleans Youth Action Corps**  
**PJ 996501-01-0 (FY 95 - \$80,000) PROJECT COMPLETED 9/96**

Project: Education Outreach P2 Program Educating Low Income and Minorities

The mission of this project is to educate low-income and minority residents of metropolitan New Orleans about stormwater runoff,

its effect, and methods of prevention. Education will include how participation in such a process will benefit individuals and communities. Education methods include presentations to school children, educational brochures distributed to neighborhoods, and stenciling storm drains ("Dump No Waste. Drains to Lake")

**! Greater Laredo Development Corporation**  
**PJ 996495-01-0 (FY 95 - \$80,000) PROJECT COMPLETED 9/96**

Project: EJ/P2 Community Education and Small Business Assistance

Grantee, in cooperation with other local organizations, will provide education and training of Laredo's trade-handling community to prevent hazardous materials accidents before they happen. The "outreach" program includes 1) Assistance to Trade Handling Small Business Managers which focuses on the importance of haz mat prevention programs, 2) Hazardous Materials training for workers, which focusses on LCC haz mat classes designed for freight forwarding workers. and 3) coordination of p2 programs.

## **Region 6 Environmental Justice Annual Report**

### **List of Attachments**

- 1) **Attachment No. 1** - Environmental Justice Roundtable Announcement and summary information.
- 2) **Attachment No. 2** - "Ad Hoc Meetings of Community Leaders and Agency Representatives", Summary of Roundtable issues/concerns.
- 3) **Attachment No. 3** - Kennedy Heights, Texas, waste contamination issue. Region 6 response to residents, legal opinion on applicability of CERCLA.
- 4) **Attachment No. 4** - "Region 6 FY96 Grant Finalists Environmental Justice Small Grants Program" and "FY 1996 Community /University Partnership Grants Awardees".
- 5) **Attachment No. 5** - " Draft - Region 6 Environmental Justice Strategy Implementation Process Outline".
- 6) **Attachment No. 6** - "Environmental Justice Enforcement Cases"

## **Region 6 Environmental Justice Annual Report**

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#### **1) Accomplishments by Mission Areas**

**!** Public Participation, Accountability, Partnerships, Outreach, and Communication with Stakeholders

**!** Health and Environmental Research

**!** Data Collection, Analysis, and Stakeholder Access to Public Information

**!** American Indian, Alaska Native and Indigenous Environmental Protection

**!** Enforcement, Compliance Assurance and Regulatory Review

#### **2) Appendix - EJ/Pollution Prevention funded Project Activities**

#### **3) Attachments:**

**Attachment No. 1** - Environmental Justice Roundtable Announcement and summary information.

**Attachment No. 2** - "Ad Hoc Meetings of Community Leaders and Agency Representatives", Summary of Roundtable issues/concerns.

**Attachment No. 3** - Kennedy Heights, Texas, waste contamination issue. Region 6 response to residents, legal opinion on applicability of CERCLA.

**Attachment No. 4** - "Region 6 FY96 Grant Finalists Environmental Justice Small Grants Program" and "FY 1996 Community /University Partnership Grants Awardees".

**Attachment No. 5** - " Draft - Region 6 Environmental Justice Strategy Implementation Process Outline".

**Attachment No. 6** - Summary of Enforcement Cases in EJ communities.